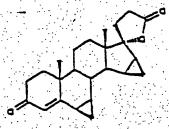
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and

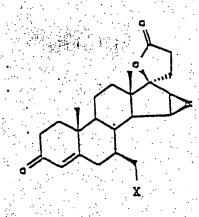
2 9. (Twice Amended) A composition comprising 6B, 7B; 15B, 16B-dimethylene-3-oxo-

17α -pregn-4-ene-21,17-carbolactone, a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, and less than 0.2% by weight of said compound of the contaminants



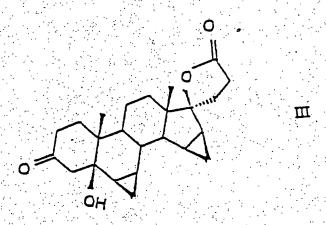
and

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wherein X is an anion of an acid which is effective to open said 6β, 7β-methylene group.

- 3 10. (Amended) A composition comprising
- (a) 6β, 7β; 15β, 16β-dimethylene-3-oxo-17α-pregn-4-ene-21,17-carbolactone made by a process comprising dehydrating a compound of Formula III,



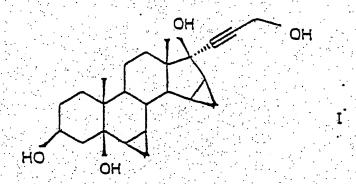
which was made by oxidizing in the presence of a ruthenium salt a compound of Formula

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which was made by catalytically hydrogenating a compound of Formula I



- (b) a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, and
- (c) less than 0.2% by weight of said compound (a) of the byproducts of said preparation process which are

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and

wherein X is an anion of an acid which is effective to open said 6β, 7β-methylene group.

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4 12. (Amended) A compound of claim 10, wherein in said process, said dehydrating is performed after said compound of Formula III is isolated from the medium in which it is prepared.

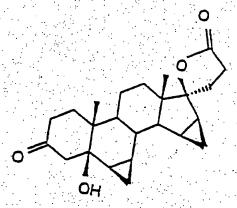
Please add new claims 13 and 14 as follows:

--13. 6β, 7β; 15β, 16β-dimethylene-5β-hydroxy-3-oxo-17α-androstane-21,17-carbolactone

D4

in isolated form.

6 14. 6β, 7β; 15β, 16β-dimethylene-5β-hydroxy-3-oxo-17α-androstane-21,17-carbolactone



in isolated and purified form .-